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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives wish to recognize the Safety and Security  
4 Department at Presence Mercy Medical Center for its work in  
5 keeping the staff of the medical center safe; and

6           WHEREAS, Healthcare workers are at a high risk of violent  
7 assault and crime at work, with 48% of all non-fatal injuries  
8 from 1996 to 2000 inflicted upon healthcare and social services  
9 workers; and

10           WHEREAS, Workplace violence accounts for approximately 900  
11 deaths and 1.7 million incidents of non-fatal assaults in the  
12 United States each year; sources estimate that nurses and other  
13 healthcare workers are assaulted more frequently than any other  
14 worker group in the United States; and

15           WHEREAS, In an effort to reduce violence at Presence Mercy  
16 Medical Center, Security and Safety manager Douglas Kaiser and  
17 Security Sergeants Robert Lea, Christian Pfister, and Darin  
18 Northern have planned ahead by being prepared to act swiftly to  
19 deal with threats, intimidation, and other disruptive behavior  
20 at an early stage; one effort being made at Presence Mercy  
21 Medical Center is to provide the members of their security  
22 department with effective training to deal with or identify

1 potential violence problems; and

2 WHEREAS, The Safety and Security Department at Presence  
3 Mercy Medical Center also believe that training is a critical  
4 component of any prevention strategy for staff, supervisors,  
5 and other employees; after seeing the need for a vigorous  
6 training effort, 100% of the officers within the Security  
7 Department have studied, tested, and received certification  
8 for basic level training for Healthcare Safety and Security  
9 Officers by the International Association for Healthcare  
10 Security and Safety in a period of less than a year; in  
11 addition, 92% of the department's members have studied, tested,  
12 and received certification for advanced level training and 83%  
13 of the department is certified at the supervisory level; the  
14 department is also qualified to apply for the prestigious  
15 International Association for Healthcare Security and Safety  
16 "Program of Distinction", which very few healthcare facilities  
17 have achieved; and

18 WHEREAS, The Safety and Security Department at Presence  
19 Mercy Medical Center consists of Manager Doug Kaiser, Sergeant  
20 Robert Lea, Sergeant Christian Pfister, Sergeant Darin  
21 Northern, Officer Kendra Cowper, Officer Dan Nichol, Officer  
22 Jim Rees, Officer Victor Jimenez, Officer Miguel Saenz, Officer  
23 Kerry Haggard, Officer Tom Greiner, Officer David Oliver, and  
24 Officer Nora Rodriguez; and

1           WHEREAS, The Safety and Security Department at Presence  
2           Mercy Medical Center serves as a model of hard work, integrity,  
3           and dedication for the people of the State of Illinois;  
4           therefore, be it

5           RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
6           NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that  
7           we recognize the Safety and Security Department at Presence  
8           Mercy Medical Center for its work in keeping the staff of the  
9           medical center safe and wish them continued success in the  
10          future; and be it further

11          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
12          presented to the Safety and Security Department at Presence  
13          Mercy Medical Center as a symbol of our esteem and respect.